

D&D Subgroup Highlights  
June 9, 1998

This meeting was held in the ETB Spokane River Room starting at 9:00am.

WSU Tri-Cities Certification Program

Jim Hoover, a Numatec Hanford employee working for WSU, gave a slide presentation on the new Decontamination & Decommissioning Fundamentals Certification Program being developed for WSU Tri-Cities. This program was initiated by DOE and BHI to meet the need for more qualified personnel to perform current and future D&D work on-site. One intent is to retrain current workers and also to provide D&D as a career path for new and future employees. Planning for this program began six weeks ago with a goal of having courses ready for the Fall '98 semester at WSU Tri-Cities.

The certificate will be awarded after successful completion of course work in seven topical areas of instruction that are organized in nine modules. The seven topical areas are basic radiation science, physical and chemical characteristics and properties of hazardous and non-radiological materials, engineering, characterization, regulations, risk assessment/pathway/risk analysis, and project management. Each of these seven areas is a program module and there are also two integrated case studies that are modules also. There are three options available for certification: short-course modular format, regular-course-based format, and the degree option. The short-course option allows an individual to get up to speed in a specific area quickly and to see if they would be interested in pursuing the certificate or degree in the future. The course-based option will be ready in the Fall and will be coordinated with other degree programs. Other students would be able to take these courses as credit toward their degrees. The degree option being examined is a formal B.S. and M.S. degree with a D&D elective emphasis. Certificates would be given for all who complete the modules. Various options for the short-course format are still being examined.

Jim Hoover is talking with BWHC personnel about adding facility transition information to the courses also. This could include deactivation and surveillance and maintenance information. The instructors will be WSU-TC faculty as well as BHI personnel and other qualified individuals.

Hanford ASTD Proposal

Norm Olson talked about a proposal being written in response to the Accelerated Site Technology Deployment (ASTD) program's call for proposals. This proposal was entitled "Remote Size-Reduction and Decontamination in Large Hot Cells by Deploying Robotic Technologies". The proposal involves the use of a robotic system suspended from a crane in the 324 Building hot cells. The proposal asks for \$1.5 million, and the savings from using this system was estimated at \$2.7 million. The draft of this proposal is still being revised, but the proposal will be sent in this Friday to INEEL. Copies of the final proposal will be distributed to all subgroup members after it is submitted.

Dave Langstaff said that the proposed crane deployment system would work in any canyon

facility on-site. The system is very flexible in all directions and would have a dual arm that would allow for stabilization and work at the same time. Dave and Jim Goodenough will sign a joint letter supporting this proposal and the transmittal letter for the proposal will come from Pete Knollmeyer.

Norm said that there are two firms that he knew of with robotic systems that could meet the requirements of this proposal. One firm is Schilling Robotics Systems and the other is COGEMA Engineering Corporation. It was suggested that Norm talk to Sharon Bailey (PNNL), who is doing work for the Robotics Cross-Cutting Focus Area. She can identify other companies who may be able to do the proposed work. The high radiation field that the work has to be performed in makes this a very challenging job.

### Procurement as a Technology Deployment Barrier

Dennis Houston, a procurement specialist at BHI, was introduced. A discussion took place concerning sole source justification problems with testing technologies on-site. In some cases, it has taken more than six months to get an agreement in place. Stephen Pulsford talked about how BHI performs demos on-site. Charles Kronvall (BWHC) then discussed how PHMC contractors do similar work. Under the PHMC contract the subcontractors have the right to do the work rather than go outside the fence to do it. Stephen said BHI doesn't have this subcontractor roadblock at all and can go directly out to industry. Under both scenarios there has to be union review and approval also.

Dennis Houston talked about the need to package your requests to obtain commercial technologies rather than design and build it ourselves. The key to successfully doing this procurement is that the technology has to be sold commercially in the market already. You need to buy equipment, not services, from the vendor. Anything else, besides the equipment, is ancillary. The technology being purchased can be adapted to meet your needs also. The new Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) language allows you to do market research to see if only one firm manufactures the product you want to purchase. If that is the finding of the market study, then you can write a sole source contract with that company. The BHI procurement people advertise the need in a request for information in the Commerce Business Daily (CBD) and on the Internet. The BHI technology deployment people work closely with the procurement specialists to develop the request and to analyze the results.

### Science and Technology Needs Process

Greg Berlin has been leading this effort for FDH and has been meeting with facility representatives and other PHMC people to put together this year's list. Greg has also been reviewing the MYPPs to identify technology needs. The draft needs list should be out in early July so the subgroup members can review the list before the July 14 meeting. Dave Langstaff

mentioned the need to have both the DOE and PHMC project managers involved in the process. Kim Kogler mentioned that BHI has identified some Canyon Disposition Initiative needs in the characterization area that will be submitted. Other needs are also being put together by BHI for review at the next subgroup meeting.

#### Laser Cutter Update

A joint ASTD proposal is being written with the DOE, Nevada Operations Office to deploy the laser cutter at a number of sites, including Hanford. The proposal entitled "Oversized Transuranic Waste Laser Cutting and Electrolytic Decontamination Systems Deployment" would make the laser cutter portable, thus enabling its use throughout the DOE complex. LANL would fabricate and test the system and the first site for deployment would be at the Nevada Test Site to size reduce 58 TRU contaminated metal boxes to allow them to be shipped to WIPP. The next deployment would be to Hanford to size reduce 150 gloveboxes. Rocky Flats also has more than 150 gloveboxes that need to be cut up. In addition to cutting up gloveboxes at Hanford, its use to remove asbestos is also being examined. The ASTD joint proposal will be distributed to all subgroup members when it is ready.

#### Canyon Disposition Initiative Update

Kim Kogler stated that characterization of U-Plant will start in FY99. EM-60 has put funding on the table for a structural integrity analysis also. The characterization technology needs package is almost done. These needs will be put on the web at [www.bhi-erc.com/canyon/canyon.htm](http://www.bhi-erc.com/canyon/canyon.htm). There are seven needs statements for D&D being put together by FDH. Robots will be used to go into the tunnel to measure the dose rate and other conditions. There will be video and camera images to characterize U-Plant. Kim is working with the BHI procurement people to identify industrial companies who are capable of doing the work needed to be done.

#### Miscellaneous Updates

A committee is being formed to plan the closing ceremonies for the C-Reactor Demonstration Project. It will be a one day event on Monday, September 22. This date was chosen because it is after the SPECTRUM '98 Conference in Denver. There will be a morning meeting at the Doubletree Hotel in Richland with talks and a lunch. Then, after lunch, a bus will take everyone to the C-Reactor for the continuation of the meeting. The afternoon will feature keynote speakers and a video of the project. The final agenda item will be the welding of the door shut. On September 23, there may be a technical symposium on reactor D&D. One idea would be to have WSU Tri-Cities serve as the host for the symposium. The details of the event are being worked out now.

The SPECTRUM '98 Conference will be in Denver on September 15-18. BHI will have a booth there as well as the DDFA and the Pacific Rim Enterprise Center. Shannon Saget will give a talk on the C-Reactor, along with Stephen Pulsford. Four of the demonstrated technologies will be presented and each of the vendors will be there to speak about them also.

D&D Subgroup Meeting Attendees - 6/9/98

Singh Bath	FDH	376-1840
Gary Ballew	PREC	946-0611
Greg Berlin	FDH	372-4352
Ron Borisch	BWHC	372-3482
Dennis Brown	DOE-RL	372-4030
Jim Goodenough	DOE-RL	376-0893
Rich Hobart	BWH	373-2316
Jim Hoover	WSU-TC/Numatec	372-7269
Dennis Houston	BHI	375-4670
Bob Julian	Ecology	736-5702
Kim Koegler	BHI	372-9294
Charlie Kronvall	BWHC	373-3309
Dave Langstaff	DOE-RL	376-5580
Norm Olson	FDH	372-4810
Stephen Pulsford	BHI	373-1769
Gene Schreckhise	WSU-TC	372-7323
Steve Weakley	PNNL	372-4275